

25 OCT 1944
10.10

COSFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.



R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1944

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,D.P.H.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Cosford,
in the County of West Suffolk, for the year ending
31st December, 1944.

-----10 0 0-----

Public Health Offices,
Westgate House,
Bury St. Edmund's.

September, 1945.

To: -

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Cosford.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your
favourable consideration my ninth Annual Report as Medical
Officer of Health, being for the year ended December 31st,
1944.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. CLAYTON,

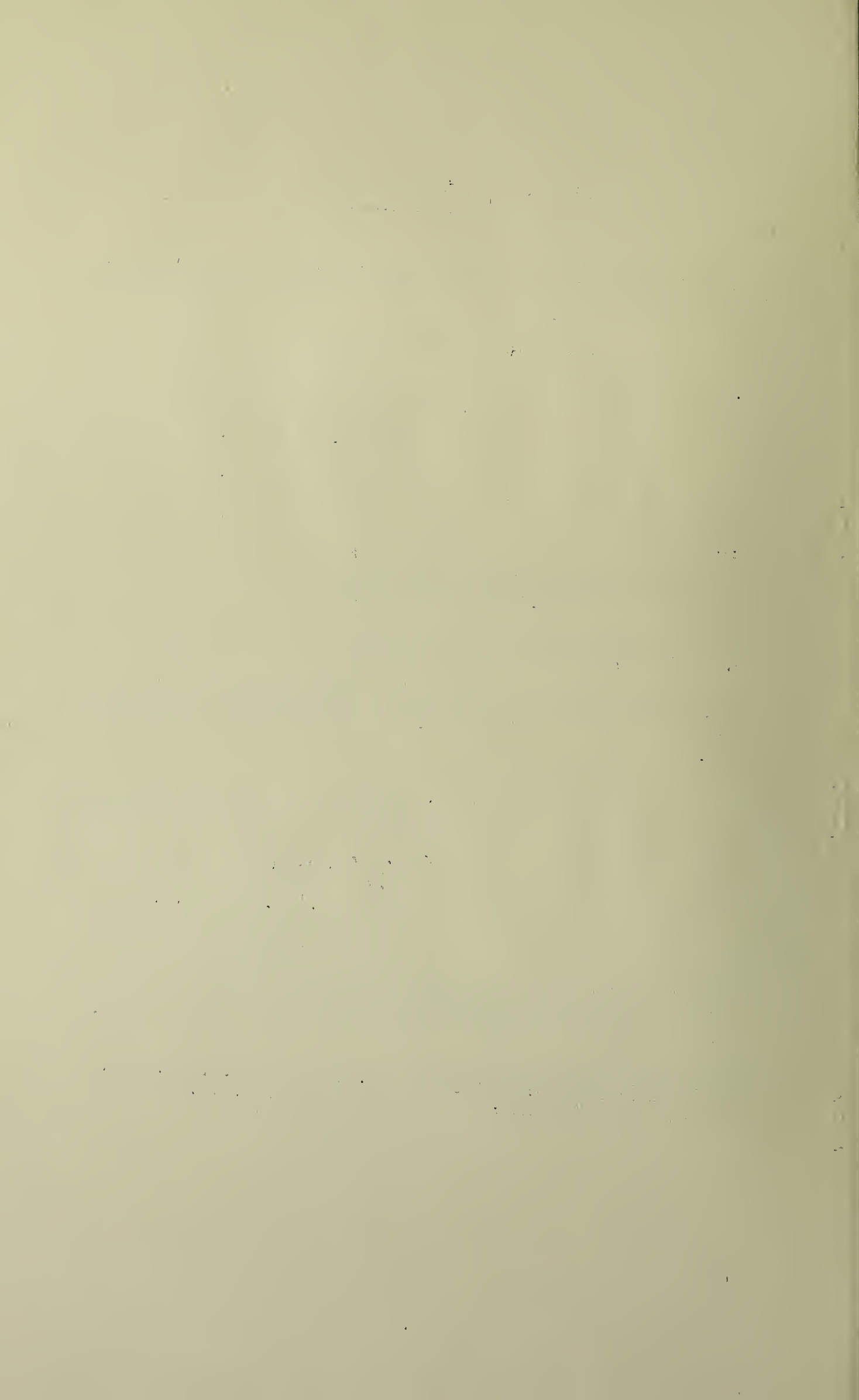
M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

also Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket Urban, Mildenhall,
Thingoe and Thedwastre Rural Districts and
Assistant County Medical Officer of Health - West Suffolk.

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor
and Petroleum Officer.

W.H.Taylor, A.R.San.Inst.,
Meat Cert., R.S.I.



SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	48,530 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population mid-year	9,467
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	3,096
Rateable Value	£26,240
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£120

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	159	79	80
Illegitimate	15	8	7

Stillbirths.

Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

<u>Deaths.</u>	145	65	80
----------------	-----	----	----

<u>Birth Rate.</u>	Cosford	18.4	England & Wales	17.6
--------------------	---------	------	-----------------	------

<u>Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births</u>	"	27.9
---	---	------

<u>Death Rate per 1000 resident population.</u>	"	15.3	"	"	11.6
---	---	------	---	---	------

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year

All Infants per 1000 live births	"	28.7	"	"	46
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births.	"	31.4			
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	"	Nil.			

Legitimate Live Births (L.L.B.) and Illegitimate Live Births (I.L.B.) registered during the past ten years have been:-

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935.
L.L.B.	159	148	143	141	118	126	114	105	131	133
I.L.B.	15	4	6	2	2	3	4	4	9	8

5 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred during 1944, (2 male and 3 females, all legitimate). One death from maternal causes (Heading 30), 15 deaths from Cancer and no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On the following page is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures. The deaths are classified under the Headings given in the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

The Birth Rate of 1944 is higher than those recorded in my previous eight annual reports.

Of the 145 deaths, 100 = 69% occurred at the age of 65 years or over.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Deaths at the sub-joined ages
of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring
in or beyond District.

HEADING		Under 1 Year		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 45		45 and under 65		65 and upwards		TOTAL = Registrar General's figures	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		M = Male F = Female															
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	2	1
7	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
9	Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (m) uterus (f)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	2	2
16	Cancer of all other sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	4	5	4
17	Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	6	5	9
19	Heart Disease	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	5	1	15	19	20	22	
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	2	5
21	Bronchitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	2	5
22	Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	2	4
26	Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
27	Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1
28	Nephritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	5	6
30	Other maternal causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
31	Premature Births	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
32	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
33	Suicide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
34	Road Traffic Accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
35	Other Violent Causes	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	2	3
36	All Other Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	6	9	11	11
	TOTAL	Males		2	2	-	-	-	-	5	15	41	65				
		Females		3	2	-	-	1	4	11	59	80					

S E C T I O N B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge provides these facilities for a lump sum which covers also any specimens examined in emergency by the West Suffolk General Hospital.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. No general ambulances are stationed in Cosford. The District therefore relies on Red Cross ambulances stationed at Sudbury, Bury St. Edmund's and Ipswich.

Throughout 1944 the Civil Defence Ambulances were available for the transport of scabies and other cases not deemed suitable for transport in Red Cross ambulances. Now that the Civil Defence Services have been disbanded, new arrangements are required, and the Council has asked for a conference to discuss ambulance facilities with all the Councils and Ambulance Authorities throughout the County.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The Local Nursing Associations, which are financed partly by contributory scheme, partly by voluntary contributions, and partly by County Council grants, carry out this work through their nurses who are residing in the villages of Brettenham, Bildeston, Elmsett, Kersey, Groton and Lavenham, whilst some parishes on the periphery are served by nurses residing at Hadleigh and Stoke-by-Nayland.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.) No
(e) HOSPITALS.) change.

S E C T I O N C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. Drought was worse than the previous year, although not serious - water was carted for a short period during August and September to The Green, Thorpe Morieux, Windsor Green, Cockfield and Ash Street, Semer, but Public supplies were maintained throughout the year.

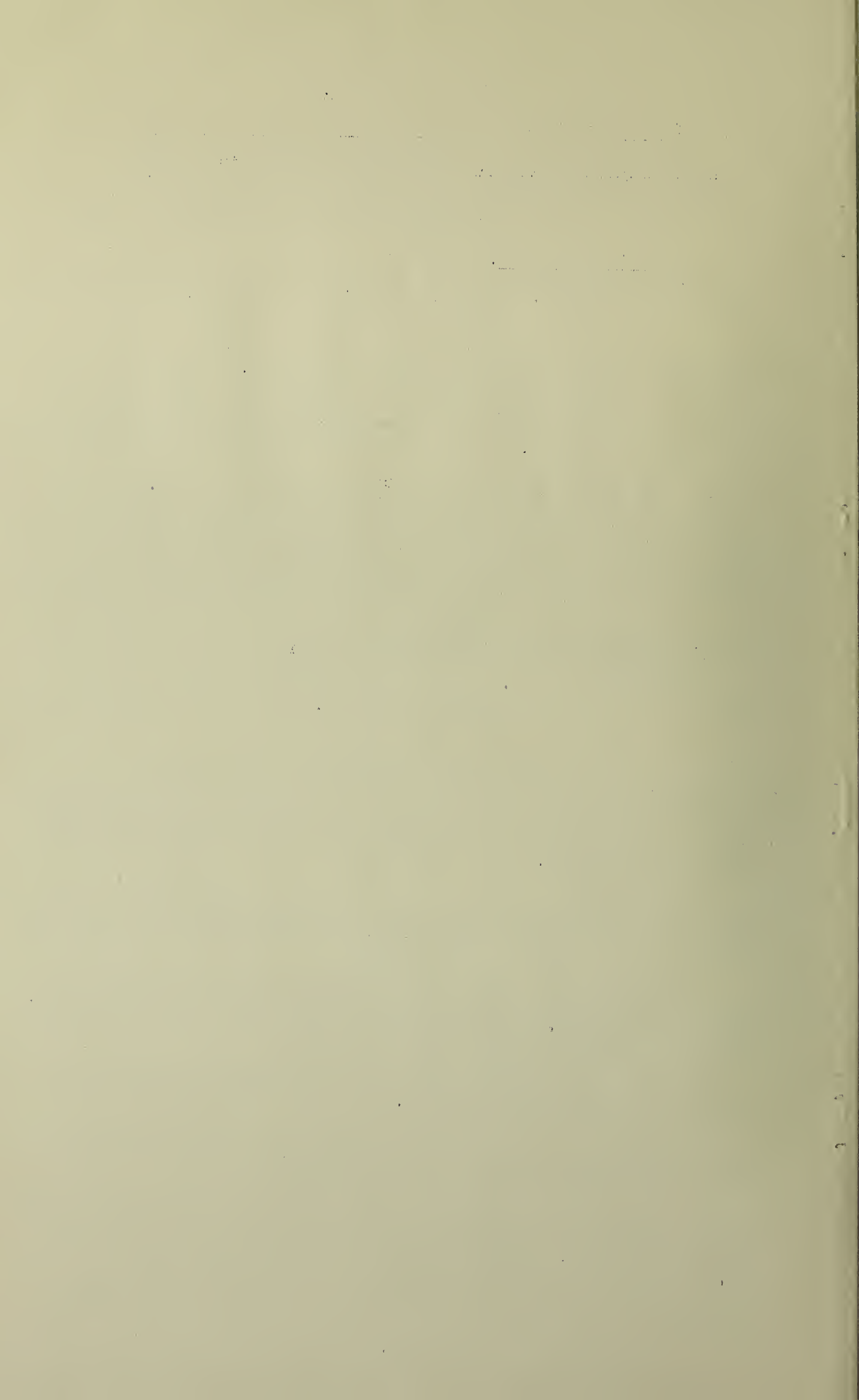
Nine additional premises were connected to the water mains, four being for domestic supplies, two of which were the result of action under the Public Health Act.

Twenty four water samples were obtained during the year, ten from the public mains, which were satisfactory. Eight of the remaining fourteen were unsatisfactory and three were suspicious. Warning notices were given where necessary.

The bore at Brettenham again caused trouble, the corrosive action of the water on the galvanised iron pump delivery pipes necessitating frequent renewals.

Softening has not been carried out regularly due to delays in transport retarding deliveries of salt.

The existing bores and pumps have definite limitations. The Lavenham bores are unsatisfactory and there is to be extensive house building in the district and the concomitant provision of Sewerage schemes. Consequently, the Council have given instructions to their Water Engineers to carry out a complete survey and suggest a comprehensive water scheme for the whole district.



562 houses have a public piped water supply and a further 579 houses are within 200 feet of a public standpipe and use the public supply. This represents 18.2% of houses in the District piped and 18.7% of houses in the District using standpipes, and of houses in the parishes with a public piped water supply 39.6% piped and 40.8% using standpipes.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. 5 new drains were inspected, and 23 cesspools emptied during the year.

Action, in default, was undertaken to provide satisfactory drainage to one house, the cost, £70, being recovered from the owner without legal process.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. The clearing and deepening of water courses in the District by Drainage Boards, as part of their agricultural policy, improved the conditions of rivers and streams, but until sewerage schemes become operative, cause for complaint is likely to remain.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. A twice weekly collection of Night Soil is carried out at Lavenham, Bildeston and Boxford. 2 water closets and 2 pail closets were constructed during the year.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The Council are aware of the unsightly accumulations which exist throughout the District and the fly and rat infestation consequent upon the absence of a satisfactory Public Cleansing Scheme. During the year, attempts were made to inaugurate a Scheme for the parish of Lavenham, but this scheme was delayed owing to the difficulty of purchasing a suitable site. The Council now, bearing in mind that the supply of motor vehicles will be eased consequent on the cessation of hostilities, have given instructions to have prepared a Public Cleansing Scheme which will service the whole District.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following particulars of sanitary work during 1944 have been supplied to me by Mr. Taylor:-

Number of Inspections.

Houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts.	385
Building Byelaws	8
Tents, vans, sheds	12
Factories.	8
Shops.	12
Cowsheds & Dairies.	100
Butcher's premises	6
Samples (Milk 13 Water 24)	37
Dumps & tips	18
After Infectious Disease	6
Miscellaneous	215
Salvage	24
Food preparing premises	15
Re-inspections	134
Slaughterhouses, meat inspection.	0
Schools	16
	<u>997</u>

Factory Act, 1937.

8 visits to Factories were made. Absence of closet accommodation at one was remedied.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. 12 visits were paid to inspect heating, lighting and ventilation arrangements.

(v) CAMPING SITES. 2 applications for Licence to occupy a site were made in 1944. 1 unauthorised site was closed.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.)No
 (vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.)change.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Two non-council houses were treated with Hydrogen Cyanide by the Associated Fumigating Company.

4. SCHOOLS. The water, washing and sanitary arrangements were inspected during 16 visits. In general the accommodation is bad and overtaxed by school meals. Drinking water was supplied to one school and repairs requested at another.

S E C T I O N D.

HOUSING.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 302 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 386 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. | 161 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 161 |
| (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 85 |
| (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding Sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 226 |
| 2. <u>Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.</u> | |
| Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. | 29 |
| 3. <u>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u> | |
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which | |
| (a) Demolition Orders were made | 2 |
| (b) Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation | 0 |
| (c) Undertakings accepted to repair in specified time | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 0 |
| 4. <u>Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.</u> | |
| (a) (i) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year | 11 |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | 15 |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | 67 |
| (b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 6 |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 2 |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 15 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. | 0 |

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

No. of registered Cowkeepers & Dairymen	113
No. of registered Dairies	4
No. of visits to Cowsheds & Dairies	100
No. of notices issued in respect of unclean methods	5
No. of notices issued in respect of unclean premises	10
No. of registered premises found to require structural alterations	3
Work completed	5
No. of buildings adapted and brought into use	0
Samples taken for analyses	13
Legal proceedings	0
Retail producers removed from register	0

During the year six cowkeepers obtained Accredited licences, five with Accredited licences obtained Tuberculin Tested licences, and two Tuberculin Tested licences were withdrawn.

Local Authorities' interest and progress in this work is hindered by the intention to transfer these functions to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Appointed Day has not yet been announced; it is to be hoped that the transition period will quickly be terminated.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No. of Registered Slaughterhouses	Nil
No. of Licensed "	Nil
No. of Visits to "	Nil

Small quantities of canned foods and fish were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

(c) <u>ADULTERATION, ETC.</u>	}	NO CHANGE
(d) <u>CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.</u>		
(e) <u>NUTRITION.</u>		
(f) <u>SHELL-FISH (Molluscan)</u>		
(g) <u>WATER-CRESS.</u>		

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	Total Cases Noti- fied.	Age in Years													Adm. to Hosp- ital.	Deaths.
		-1	1	2	3	4	5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	65+		
Scarlet Fever	13	-	-	1	-	-	2	5	3	-	1	1	-	-	3	1
Whooping Cough	54	4	4	7	4	4	7	19	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Erysipelas	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	3	3	1	1
Measles	33	-	3	1	-	3	2	7	2	4	11	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	9	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	2	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL:-	123	6	8	9	4	7	12	32	11	6	14	2	7	5	9	6

The number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1944 was 123 - this was a decrease of 10 on the 1943 figure.

In addition to the above diseases which are notifiable throughout the country, 59 notifications were received of Infective Jaundice, which is notifiable only in the Eastern area.

127 children (91 age 0-4 years and 36 age 5-14 years) completed the course of Diphtheria Immunisation during 1944. It is estimated that by the end of 1944, 87% of children under 5 years of age, and 99% of children between 5 and 15 years of age had completed the Diphtheria Immunisation course.

45 cases of Scabies were treated during the year, this being a decrease of 19 on the 1943 figure.

T U B E R C U L O S I S.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u> M.	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u> F.	<u>Respiratory</u> M.	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u> F.	<u>Respiratory</u> M.	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u> F.	<u>Respiratory</u> M.	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u> F.
0 - 4	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 14	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
45 - 54	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	7	1	4	2	1	1	-

51 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory Male 18, Female 16. and Non-Respiratory Male 6, Female 11.

